

DOCKET NO: 241983US2SRD

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
HIROFUMI MURATANI : EXAMINER: WANG, C.X.
SERIAL NO: 10/648,522 :
FILED: AUGUST 27, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2624
FOR: DIGITAL WATERMARK :
EMBEDDING APPARATUS AND
METHOD, AND DIGITAL WATERMARK
ANALYSIS APPARATUS, METHOD AND
PROGRAM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement in the Official Action mailed April 20, 2007, Applicant elects, with traverse, Group II, Claims 10-23, 25, and 27, for further examination on the merits in the present application.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction Requirement for the following reason.

MPEP § 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

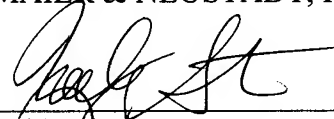
The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicant also respectfully traverses the outstanding Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

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Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 28,870

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Zachary S. Stern
Registration No. 54,719